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Triduum

The Great Three Days

Maundy Thursday, April 1,2021

Good Friday, April 2,2021

The Vigil of Easter, April 3,2021

#### Maundy Thursday

*The Maundy Thursday Liturgy is one of endings and beginnings. What was begun on Ash Wednesday is brought to a close here tonight. What begins tonight does not end until the resurrection of Easter. It is “The Triduum:” The Great Three Days of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Vigil of Easter.*

*The theme of tonight’s liturgy is love: our Savior’s love for us, expressed in the washing of the disciples’ feet, in giving himself in bread and wine, in dying upon the cross.*

*Tonight we gather around a table. As Jesus gathered the disciples at the Last Supper, so do we begin the Triduum around a shared meal where Christ reveals himself in loving action, bread and wine.*

*To mark the significance of this day, you might prepare a special meal. Or you might set the table as you would for special guests or a celebration, such as bringing out “the good dishes,” or lighting candles, or having a centerpiece of flowers or other decoration.*

*Items for tonight’s portion of the Triduum worship service:*

* *A bowl of water and washcloth (optional)*
* *Bread and wine/grape juice for Holy Communion*

**GATHERING**

**Be Present at Our Table, Lord**

Be present at our table, Lord.   
Be here and everywhere adored.  
These mercies bless and grant that we   
may strengthened for thy service be.   
Amen.

Worship begins when we sing or say grace then eat our evening meals in our own households.

Whether you are by yourself or there are several in your home, we gather together across the distances as one community in Christ. Check-in with each other. Find out how your days went. Ask what Holy Week and Easter Day mean to you. If you live alone, you might consider calling a friend on the phone during this time or arrange with one or more people to have a Zoom call together while you eat your dinners.

After you have finished your meal, reserving the bread and wine of Holy Communion until later, now begin watching the worship video.

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead to sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of (☩)Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**All: Amen**

*You may lay a hand on each other’s heads and say these words,* **“In obedience to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins.”**

*As we began Lent on Ash Wednesday feeling the mark of ash on our foreheads and remembering our mortality, now we conclude Lent by feeling a hand laid on our heads in forgiveness. It is not only ordained clergy who may do this action, but all members of the Body of Christ share the responsibility of speaking the word of forgiveness to others in our daily lives.*

**GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**WORD**

**READINGS**

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

**SERMON**

Deacon Connie Rose-Kamprath

**WORD IN ACTION**

*On this night we have heard our Lord’s commandment to love one another as he has loved us. We who receive God’s love in Jesus Christ are called to love one another; to be servants to each other as Jesus became our servant. Our commitment to this loving service is signified in the washing of feet, following the example our Lord gave us on the night before his death.*

*At this time, if you wish, you may wash one another’s feet or hands using the bowl of water and washcloth. If you are by yourself, you might wash your own hands, remembering times when God used those hands to show humble love and tender care. See how deserving they are of honor and care.*

*Alternatively, you may contemplate times you have served others in humble service, as well as times others have served you humbly. How is the love of Christ shown in these actions?*

**ELW #659 “Will You Let Me Be Your Servant”**

Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ is to you? Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey, we are trav’lers on the road; we are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you I the night-time of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh I’ll laugh with you I will share your joy and sorrow till we’ve seen this journey through.

Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ is to you? Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*Each petition will conclude, “Lord, in your mercy,” and you may say,* **“Hear our prayer.”**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER** *sung*

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come, your will be done,

On Earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those

Who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,

And deliver us from evil,

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours

Now and forever. Amen

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**MEAL**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Lord Jesus, in a wonderful sacrament you strengthen us with the saving power of your suffering, death, and resurrection. May this sacrament of your body and blood so work in us that the fruits of your redemption will show forth in the way we live, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**PSALM 22**

*Psalm 22 is now read while the table is stripped. In your own homes at this time, you may choose to remove from your table all dishes, decorations, coverings, leaving it bare, while you listen to the psalm.*

*There is no benediction tonight; you may take some time to sit quietly.*

*The service continues tomorrow with the Good Friday liturgy.*

#### Good Friday

*We continue the worship service that began yesterday, as we journey with our Savior from the Last Supper, the stripping and humiliation, to the cross and the tomb, and to his rising. Today is the second of The Great Three Days of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Vigil of Easter.*

*The Good Friday liturgy is marked with austerity, silence, and reflection. The opening portion of the liturgy contains no praise but proceeds directly to the Prayer of the Day. It is a simplified version of our Sunday Liturgy of the Word. The chief acts are the telling of Christ’s Passion in word and song.*

*We then depart in silence without benediction, until we gather again tomorrow for the conclusion of this worship service with the Vigil of Easter. Christ’s death is not God’s final word.*

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Merciful God, your Son was lifted up on the cross to draw all people to himself. Grant that we who have been born out of his wounded side may at all times find mercy in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**FIRST READING**

Hebrews 10:16-25

**MEDITATION**

Pastor Annemarie Burke

**THE PASSION ACCORDING TO ST. JOHN**

**Reading One**

John 18:1-11 *Jesus is betrayed*

Lord God, as we consider the events of your passionate love, open our eyes to the ways of our own betrayal and deceit. Help us resist the temptations of this world, and show us your mercy in the way of the cross; through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

*O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*, verse 1

O sacred head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down,

Now scornfully surrounded with thorns, thine only crown;

O Sacred head, what glory, what bliss till now was thine!

Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call thee mine.

**Reading Two**John 18:12-27 *Jesus is denied*

Lord God, as we consider the events of your passionate love, open our lips to speak words of witness and not denial. Let your Holy Spirit empower our sharing of all that you have done for us through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

*O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*, verse 2

How pale thou art with anguish, with sore abuse and scorn;

How does thy face now languish, which once was bright as morn!

Thy grief and bitter passion were all for sinners’ gain;

Mine, mine was the transgression, but thine the deadly pain.

**Reading Three**John 18:28-40 *Jesus is condemned*

Lord God, as we consider the events of your passionate love, open our minds to ways beyond prejudice and unkind judgments. Help us in all our speech and conduct to reflect the love of Christ, that all the world may know of your goodness and mercy; through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

*O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*, verse 3

What language shall I borrow to thank thee, dearest friend,

For this thy dying sorrow, thy pity without end?

Oh, make me thine forever, and should I fainting be,

Lord, let me never, never outlive my love to thee.

**Reading Four**John 19:1-16a *Jesus is mocked*

Lord God, as we consider the events of your passionate love, open our hands to serve only you. Keep us from ways of cruelty and harm, and teach us your ways of peace and mercy; through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

*O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*, verse 4

Lord, be my consolation; shield me when I must die;

Remind me of thy passion when my last hour draws nigh.

These eyes, new faith receiving from thee shall never move;

For all who die believing die safely in thy love.

**Reading Five**John 19:16b-25a *Jesus is crucified*

Lord God, as we consider the events of your passionate love, open our lives to embrace in faith your way of the cross and the salvation it brings to all the world. Give us lives of gratitude and trust, and strengthen in faith all who discover in the cross of Christ the abundant love and forgiveness you grant, through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

*Were You There*, verse 1

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

**Reading Six**John 19:25b-30 *Jesus dies*

Lord God, as we consider the events of your passionate love, open our whole selves that we may live your love in all the world. Grant that we who have been born out of his wounded side may find new life in him both now and in the world to come, through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

*Were You There*, verse 2

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

**Reading Seven**John 19:38-42 *Jesus is buried*

***Silence is kept.***

*Were You There*, verse 3

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?  
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

*We end in silence. You are welcome to stay in silent contemplation as long as you wish. The service continues tomorrow with the Vigil of Easter. Christ’s death is not God’s final word.*

#### The Vigil of Easter

*Like the children of Israel who watched and waited through the night for the Lord of the Exodus, we too watch and wait this night for the Lord of the Resurrection. As Christians have done since the first century, we keep vigil and prepare ourselves for the arrival of the Bridegroom who is chief host and guest at the Easter feast to come.*

*First, we must break the darkness of the night. We light our vigil lights. Our light will be a very special light, for it is the light of Christ which burns atop the Paschal candle and which dispels the darkness—of night, of sin, of death. Our light will be a constant reminder of the Easter victory during the coming season, at every baptism and at every funeral. But for now, it will burn in vigil as we await the Bridegroom.*

*While we watch and wait, we hear the stories of our faith -- the stories of God's salvation history and the covenants which he made with our people. These are our "family" stories. We listen. We watch. And we wait for the feast to come.*

*After hearing our stories, we make our last minute preparations to meet our Lord. All must be right for the feast. All who are gather are part of the family, which is the Church and the Bride of Christ. And so that the whole family is prepared, each of us renews our baptismal vows. As the water touches us, we hear and we feel that grace which was given to us through our baptism.*

*And then at last He comes! The Easter victory is won! The Bridegroom has come through the darkness to claim his Bride, the Church, to be his own. This is the feast of victory!*

*Items for tonight’s portion of the Triduum worship service:*

* *Bowl of water*
* *One or more candles to light during the service.*
* *Bread and wine/grape juice*

**LITURGY OF LIGHT**

*We begin at the “new fire” and light the pascal candle from it. The presiding minister traces the inscription on the paschal candle. Jesus is not about the past, and the Three Days are not about recalling events of 2,000 years ago. The date inscribed on the candle is not, for example, 33, but 2021. Christ is today, his resurrection now.*

**PROCESSION**

*The procession of the paschal candle to the sanctuary entrance begins. The leader sings, “The Light of Christ!” and we respond,* **“Thanks be to God!”**

**EASTER PROCLAMATION**

*Since the fourth century, Christians have proclaimed this exultant prayer of thanksgiving and call on the whole earth to join us in praise of God. “This Is the Night” that darkness is vanquished forever, believers are rescued from gloom, the chains of death are broken, the night is as bright as the day. This is the night!*

*Just as the cross has symbolized for us the death of Christ, so now the paschal candle stands for the risen Christ. As the Easter Proclamation is sung, you are invited to light one or more candles in your home, symbolizing the Light of Christ spreading among us and into the world.*

**Easter Proclamation**

Rejoice, now, all heavenly powers!

Sing, choirs of angels!

Exult, all creation around God’s throne!

Jesus Christ is risen!

Celebrate the divine mysteries with exultation;

and for so great a victory,

sound the trumpet of salvation.

Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendor,

radiant in the brightness of your king!

Christ has conquered! Glory fills you!

Darkness vanishes forever.

Rejoice, O holy church! Exult in glory!

The risen Savior shines upon you!

Let this place resound with joy,

echoing the mighty song of all God’s people.

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

that with full devotion of heart and mind and voice

we should praise the invisible God,

and the only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord;

who, by his precious blood,

redeemed us from bondage to the ancient sin.

For this indeed is the Paschal Feast

in which the true Lamb is slain,

by whose blood

the doorposts of the faithful are made holy.

This is the night **[This is the night]**

in which, in ancient times,

you delivered our forebears, the children of Israel,

and led them, dry-shod, through the sea.

This is the night **[This is the night]**

in which the darkness of sin

has been purged away by the rising brightness.

This is the night **[This is the night]**

in which all who believe in Christ

are rescued from evil and the gloom of sin,

are renewed in grace,

and are restored to holiness.

This is the night **[This is the night]**

in which, breaking the chains of death,

Christ arises from hell in triumph.

O night truly blessed

which alone was worthy to know

the time and hour

in which Christ arose again from hell!

This is the night **[This is the night]**

in which it is written:

“The night is as clear as the day,”

and, “then shall my night be turned into day.”

The holiness of this night

puts to flight the deeds of wickedness;

washes away sin;

restores innocence to the fallen,

and joy to those who mourn;

casts out hate;

brings peace;

and humbles earthly pride.

Therefore, in this night of grace,

receive, O God, our praise and thanksgiving

for the light of the resurrection

of our Lord Jesus Christ,

reflected in the burning of this candle.

We sing the glories of this pillar of fire,

the brightness of which is not diminished

even when its light is divided and borrowed.

This is the night **[This is the night]**

in which heaven and earth are joined –

things human and things divine.

We, therefore, pray to you, O God,

that this candle, burning to the honor of your name,

will continue to vanquish the darkness of night

and be mingled with the lights of heaven.

May Christ the Morning Star find it burning,

that Morning Star who never sets,

that Morning Star who, rising from the grave,

faithfully sheds light on the whole human race.

And we pray, O God, rule, govern, and preserve

with your continual protection your whole church,

giving us peace in this time of our paschal rejoicing;

through the same Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and forever:

**Amen.**

**STORIES OF A SALVATION PEOPLE**

*For millennia, humans have gathered around a fire to tell their ancestral stories, and the Vigil of Easter is the chance for the church to do so. Each of these stories offer a description of God, a metaphor of the resurrection, and a reference to baptism. Each set of readers were invited to use their creativity in presenting their reading the way in which they chose. We give thanks to God for them and their God-given talents! Let us settle in and hear the stories of a salvation people.*

**First Reading**

*Creation*

Genesis 1:1 – 2:4, *The Message*

*Sung Response:*

**I Love to Tell the Story**, Verse 1

I love to tell the story of unseen things above,

Of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.

I love to tell the story, because I know it’s true;

It satisfies my longings as nothing else would do.

**Second Reading**

*Deliverance at the Red Sea*

Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21, *The Message*

*Sung Response:*

**I Love to Tell the Story**, Verse 2

I love to tell the story how pleasant to repeat

What seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet!

I love to tell the story, for some have never heard

The message of salvation from God’s own holy word.

**Third Reading**

*The Deliverance of Jonah*

Jonah 1:1 – 2: 10, *The Message*

*Sung Response:*

**I Love to Tell the Story**, Verse 3

I love to tell the story, for those who know it best

Seems hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.

And when in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,

I’ll sing the old, old story that I have loved so long.

**Fourth Reading**

*Salvation Freely Offered to All*

Isaiah 55:1-11, *NRSV*

*Sung Response:*

**I Love to Tell the Story**, Refrain

I love to tell the story; ‘twill be my theme in glory

To tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

**Gospel Reading**

John 2:1-18, *NRSV*

**SERMON**

Pastor Annemarie Burke

**THANKSGIVING FOR HOLY BAPTISM**

*We now praise God for the waters of the earth, for the water that nourished us in the womb, for the watery rescues that we recall from scripture, for the water in the font, for the water that will touch the bodies of the baptized. Here is God’s living water.*

*As we sing our song for baptism, you are invited to dip your thumb in a bowl of water and, for all who are already baptized, trace the sign of the cross on your or each other’s foreheads saying,* “ *Name*  **, Child of God, remember your baptism, for you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.”**

**Baptized and set free ELW# 453 vs 1,4**

We are people created, chosen by God.

Then we’re washed, ever gently, in mercy and love.

Sin has power no more. Jesus opened the door

To a fountain bringing healing, and wholeness and more.

Now with praise and thanksgiving, we join the song.

All are welcome! We gather to sing loud and strong.

Not enslaved, but set free! From now on, all will be

One in Jesus, one in water, baptized and set free!

**CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

*Now we celebrate The Feast of Victory for our God. At this time you may make ready the bread and wine/grape juice for the Reception of Holy Communion.*

**Words of Institution**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

*You are welcome to pray the Lord’s Prayer in the following translation or in the language of your heart.*

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,**

**your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen**

**Reception of Holy Communion**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ’s resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son’s resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**Amen.**

**BENEDICTION**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

**Amen**

**SENDING SONG**

*Agnus Dei*©1990 Sony/ATV Milene Music.

Alleluia Alleluia

For the Lord God Almighty reigns

Alleluia Alleluia

For the Load God Almighty reigns

Alleluia

Holy Holy

Are You Lord God Almighty

Worthy is the Lamb

Worthy is the Lamb

You are Holy

Holy are You Lord God Almighty

Worthy is the Lamb

Worthy is the Lamb

Amen

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the Good News!

**Thanks be to God!**

CCLI # 877775



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